

ENGINE STARTING APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When starting an engine, it is judged whether a catalyst is in an inactive condition or not and, if it is judged that the catalyst is in an inactive condition, the motor field current is reduced to control the output characteristic of the starter to a high-speed type, thus enabling the engine to be driven at high speed. As the engine rpm during driving rises compared with the normal case (the case where the catalyst is in an active condition), the amount of fuel remaining in the intake port and the cylinder decreases, and the injected fuel properly contributes to combustion. Accordingly, even when the catalyst is in an inactive condition, emissions (of HC) emitted into the atmosphere can be reduced.